

REMARKS

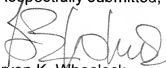
Claims 17 – 54 and 69-81 are now pending in the application. Minor amendments have been made to the claims for consistency.

In response to the Restriction Requirement, applicants provisionally elect Group I, claims 17-54 and 79-81, with traverse. The principal ground for traverse is that the examination of Group I claims directed to a process and to Group II claims to a product made by the process would involve the same or similar searching and similar examination. By way of example only, claim 19 of the elected group relates to the processing of a copper-chrome alloy by casting, hot rolling, annealing, cold working and annealing, and claim 59 of the restricted Group II similarly requires the processing of a copper-chrome alloy by casting, rolling, annealing, cold working and annealing. Applicants respectfully submit that the examination of the fifty-one claims in Groups I and II would not materially burden the Office compared to examining the forty-one claims in Group I only, and Applicants therefore request that both Groups I and II be examined in this application.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (314) 726-7505.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Bryan K. Wheelock", is written over the typed name.

Bryan K. Wheelock
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Date:

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